

with a leading face 46 and a trailing shoulder 48 interposed between projection 42 and shoulder 44. A sand hook or undercut 49 is formed at the juncture of groove 44 and leading face 46 of projection 42. Nozzle 14 is of the type disclosed and shown in application Ser. No. 266,393 filed June 26, 1972, *supra*, and assigned to the same assignee as the present invention, and reference may be had thereto for a more detailed description and operation of nozzle 14 and the significance of the specially configured thread formation 40, including projection 42, shoulder 44, sand hook 49, etc. This specially configured formation facilitates the thorough blending of the dry cementitious ingredients with the water while efficiently controlling the degree of turbulence generated in the nozzle to produce a consistent and thorough mix. It should be understood, however, that adaptor 10 of this invention is not restricted for use with the specific nozzle 14 illustrated in FIG. 3, but can be used in conjunction with any type of nozzle, including metal nozzles.

In accordance with this invention, adaptor 10 is composed of a resiliently yieldable elastomeric material, preferably urethane, which is wear and abrasion resistant and sufficiently rigid so as not to deform under the pressure employed to convey the dry ingredients therethrough. However, any suitable resiliently yieldable material of sufficient durometer and density, can be used in lieu of urethane, if desired. Adaptor 10 is of a unitary, one-piece construction and can be of any convenient size suitable for a particular application.

Adaptor 10 comprises a hollow body 50 of a generally curved or rounded outline having an axial bore 52 and an enlarged diameter internal threaded inlet opening 54 (FIG. 3) at one end for receiving a suitable hose coupling, such as shown at 12 in FIGS. 1 and 5. The other or outlet end of adaptor 10 is provided with a threaded opening 55 for receiving threaded portion 28 of nozzle 14. Inlet opening 54 terminates in an annular end wall 56 which serves as a seat for coupling 12 and outlet opening 55 terminates in an end wall 57 serving as a seat for the threaded end portion of nozzle 14.

An annular recess or groove 58 extends axially inwardly of end wall 56, providing a liquid manifold and defining an inner, collar-like wall portion 60 having an end face 62 lying in a generally common transaxial plane with end wall 56. End face 62 is beveled to form an inclined wall or shoulder 64 which also serves as a seat for a portion of hose coupling 12 and is provided with a plurality of generally radially extending teeth or ribs 65 thereon for a reason that will hereinafter become apparent. An annular recess 65 extends axially inwardly of end wall 56 in substantial parallelism with manifold groove 58 and provides a relief for accommodating radial expansion of the resiliently yieldable material in the area of end wall 56 upon compression of the same by hose coupling 12 threaded into opening 54. An annular bead 68 is formed on end wall 56 between annular recesses 58 and 66 to engage and provide a fluid tight seal against the abutting end of hose coupling 12, as shown in FIG. 5.

An annular metal reinforcing ring 72 is embedded in body 50 between threaded opening 54 and the outer surface of body 50 and serves to reinforce and rigidify the inlet end of adaptor 10. Reinforcing ring 72 is provided with an open mesh for receiving the plastic material therethrough to form a mechanical interlock therewith and has a plurality of circumferentially spaced lugs

74 struck out from the inner end of ring 72 and extending radially inwardly therefrom to properly position ring 72 within body 50 during the formation thereof by a suitable molding process.

A boss or projection 76 extends radially outwardly from body 50 and is provided with a tapped opening 78 for receiving pipe 18 (FIGS. 1 and 2) connected to a suitable source of liquid (not shown). Opening 78 communicates with a radially extending passage 82 leading to manifold groove 58.

In use, adaptor 10 is threaded on nozzle 14 until end wall seat 57 of adaptor 10 firmly engages the nozzle inlet end face. Hose coupling 12 is then connected into threaded opening 54 until the coupling end face 90 (FIG. 5) is seated against sealing bead 68 of adaptor 10 as shown in FIG. 5. An internal flange or boss 92 projects axially from end face 90 of coupling 12 and has an outer wall surface 94 overlying shoulder 64 and inclined inwardly at an angle corresponding to the angle of inclined shoulder 64. With end face 90 in initial abutting engagement with sealing bead 68, surface 94 rests against the outer surfaces or ribs 65 and is slightly spaced from shoulder 64 to form a series of annular passages 96 defined between ribs 65 and leading into bore 52. Also, the spacing between coupling end face 90 and the adaptor end face 62 forms an annular communicating passage 98 between manifold groove 58 and passages 96. Thus, water or other liquids can be directed radially inwardly into bore 52 via tapped opening 78, manifold groove 58, and passages 98 and 96.

During the blasting operation, a cement mixture in dry powder form is forced under pneumatic pressure through conduit 16, hose coupling 12, bore 52 of adaptor 10 and through the bore of nozzle 14. Simultaneously, a liquid, such as water, under pressure is introduced into bore 52 through pipe 80, opening 78, manifold 58 and passages 98 and 96. The water is mixed with the cement particles passing through bore 52 in adaptor 10 to form a wet cementitious admixture. Thread formation 40 of nozzle 14 imparts a spiral twisting or rifling motion to the admixture to thoroughly intermix the ingredients and obtain the proper consistency and density. The rifling motion becomes progressively shallower toward the outlet end 26 of nozzle 14 and provides a choking action, the result of which is an efficiently controlled stream of cement emulsion directed at a high velocity against a background surface with relatively little rebound and relatively no dust contamination of the ambient atmosphere.

A significant feature of the liquid injection adaptor of this invention is the liquid flow control means located at the inlet end thereof which is effective to vary the rate of liquid flow therethrough and also to insure flow under a uniform pressure at the selected rate to uniformly wet the dry ingredients passing through adaptor 10. To this end, manifold groove 58 varies in depth progressively from a maximum at liquid inlet passage 82 to a minimum at a point diametrically opposite inlet passage 82, as best seen in FIG. 3. Groove 58 is provided with an inclined bottom wall 100 which tapers progressively inwardly toward the inlet end of adaptor 10 from a maximum depth at inlet passage 82 to a minimum depth at a point 180° from passage inlet 82. It has been found that in adaptors having annular manifold grooves of constant depth, the portion of liquid flowing therefrom at a point remote from the region of liquid ingress